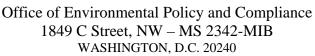


United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY





September 17, 2004

ELECTRONIC MAIL MEMO

To: Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs*

Director, Bureau of Land Management {Lead}

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service Director, National Park Service Director, Geological Survey

Director, Office of Surface Mining Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation

From: Team Leader, Natural Resources Management

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Subject: Review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Ojo Caliente

Proposed Transmission Line, Carson National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Field Office, Taos and Rio Arriba Counties, New Mexico

(ER 04/690)(Agency due date: November 1, 2004)

The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (FS) has provided the Department with a copy of the subject DEIS. The DEIS is available on line at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/carson/plans/ojo caliente/index.html. The notice of availability was published in the Federal Register on September 17, 2004. The FS point of contact is Mr. Ben Kuykendall, Project Leader, (505) 758-6311.

Would you please have your appropriate field-level office review the statement from its particular jurisdiction or special expertise and provide its comments to the State Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Santa Fe, NM by **October 18, 2004**.

The State Director, BLM will prepare the Department's comments for signature by the Regional Environmental Officer (REO) in Albuquerque, NM by **October 25, 2004**. <u>Please supply all signed paper comments, comments on disk, or by electronic mail to the REO.</u>

A related review is under ER 00/0784.

/s/ 9/17/04 Vijai N. Rai cc: Assistant Secretaries Regional Environmental Officer, Albuquerque

OEPC-Staff Contact: Loretta B. Sutton, 202-208-7565; loretta_sutton@ios.doi.gov *Hard copy distributed by regular mail